

Cabinet members who did not attend the State of the Union Address (since 1984)

January 23, 2007	Attorney General Alberto Gonzales
January 31, 2006-	Veterans Affairs Secretary Jim Nicholson
February 2, 2005 -	Secretary of Commerce Donald Evans
January 20, 2004 -	Secretary of Commerce Donald Evans
January 28, 2003-	Attorney General John Ashcroft and Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta
January 29, 2002-	Interior Secretary Gale Norton
February 27, 2001¹-	Veterans Affairs Secretary Anthony Principi
January 27, 2000-	Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson
January 19, 1999-	Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Andrew W. Cuomo
January 27, 1998-	Commerce Secretary Bill Daley
February 4, 1997-	Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman
January 30, 1996-	Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala
January 24, 1995-	Transportation Secretary Federico Pena
January 25, 1994-	Agriculture Secretary Mike Epsy
February 17, 1993²-	Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt
January 28, 1992-	Secretary of Agriculture Ed Madigan
January 29, 1991-	Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan
January 31, 1990 -	Veterans Affairs Secretary Edward J. Derwinski

¹This address before a joint session of Congress is not considered an official “State of the Union” message, although President Bush followed the State of the Union tradition of having a cabinet member stay home.

²This address before a joint session of Congress is not considered an official “State of the Union” message, although President Clinton followed the State of the Union tradition of having a cabinet member stay home.

February 9, 1989³- No absent cabinet member

January 25, 1988- Interior Secretary Donald P. Hodel

January 27, 1987- Agriculture Secretary Richard Lyng

February 4, 1986- Secretary of Agriculture John Block

February 6, 1985- Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige

January 25, 1984- Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Samuel R. Pierce Jr.

Senate Historical Office
January 2007

³This address before a joint session of Congress is not considered an official “State of the Union” message.